

EAGLES' LODGE MAKES PROGRESS THROUGH YEARS

When Terre Haute Aerie No. 291, Internal Order of Eagles, was organized in December, 1902, one of charter members was Mordecai Brown, then coming into his own as leading baseball pitcher of his team. He liked the order so well that when in his ball travels he located in Omaha, Neb., he became a life member of that aerie. Since its institution thirty-eight years ago the local aerie has become one of the leading fraternal organizations of the city and owns own comfortable home at 641 Cherry Street with a large lodgem, convenient ante rooms and option rooms, all well furnished. suffered like other fraternal orders during the depression, but is alining the lost ground and now has a membership of over 800. It initiated a class of eleven Monday night, Jan. 20, comprising leading business and professional men of the city.

Right now the membership is interested in the F. O. E. "preparedness campaign," honoring its past national president, Conrad H. Ann of Kansas City in celebration of his seventieth birthday. Last week's class was the aerie's contribution to the quota assigned Indiana for this event. It is hoped have the past national president as a visitor to the local aerie sometime this coming Spring and royal reception will be arranged for him. It is expected that State President August Myer will accom-

pany him.

The Eagles have several claims to distinction in the national array of fraternities. An Eagle wrote the first workmen's compensation law for Wisconsin in 1909. In 1911 the Eagles wrote the first mothers' pension law ever enacted into a law in this country. In 1917 the Eagles raised a patriotic fund which has been administered ever since, which pays \$1,000 to the dependents of every Eagle soldier who died in the war or who has since lost his life because of wounds incurred in the war. Then to cap the climax of its record in 1923 the Eagles wrote the first constitutional old age pension law and have been credited by a President of the United States with national sponsorship of our present old age pension system. The 1917 patriotic fund was raised by voluntary contributions and its administration was placed in the hands of Past National President Mann and he has had it in charge ever since. The Eagles are also credited with the preparation of the Eagles-Ludlow bill to stabilize employment at a saving wage and has been the basis of beneficial steps taken by the government during the great depression period.

The local aerie has never been honored by having a state president, but they have a state grand chaplain in the person of John D. Council, who is believed to be on his way to this high honor due to his own ability and his popularity with the members of the order. The aerie pays sick benefits of \$7 a week for seven weeks during any one year and has a widows' and orphans' fund, which is distributed annually to its beneficiaries as a feature of Christmas. The regular meetings of the aerie are held on Monday night each week.

The present officers of Terre Haute Aerie No. 291 are: Junior past president, Clarence Divine; president, Elwood Divine; vice-president, Lester Gibson; chaplain, Ralph Jones; secretary, Charles Booth; treasurer, Roy Gaskin, and conductor, Garland Grizell.

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